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The Humble

ADDRESS

OF THE

Archbishops, and Bishops

Of the Church of *England*,

Together with the

Clergy of the Province of *Canterbury*

In CONVOCATION Assembled;

PRESENTED TO

HER MAJESTY

At *St. James's*,

On *Tuesday* the Fifteenth Day of *February*, $170\frac{3}{4}$.

Together with

Her Majesties

MOST GRACIOUS

ANSWER.

LONDON,

Printed by *Charles Bill*, and the Executrix of *Thomas Newcomb*, deceas'd; Printers to the Queens most Excellent Majesty. 1703.

TO THE

Queens moſt Excellent Majeſty;

The Humble Addreſs of the Archbiſhops and Biſhops of the Church of *England*, together with the Clergy of the Province of *Canterbury* in Convocation Aſſembled.

May it pleaſe Your Majeſty,

WE the Archbiſhops and Biſhops of the Church of *England*, together with the Clergy of the Province of *Canterbury* in Convocation Aſſembled, do in behalf of our ſelves, and all the reſt of our Brethren, moſt humbly crave leave to Expreſs the great and deep Senſe that We have of Your Majeſties moſt Tender Compaſſion for the Poor Clergy of this Church, who have hardly wherewith to Support themſelves in the Exerciſe of their Miniſtry; and of Your Majeſties moſt Gracious Intentions, even by leſſening Your Own Revenue, to make a Proviſion for them, in ſuch manner as You were pleaſed to Declare in Your Majeſties late Meſſage to the Houſe of Commons.

As the Day on which We came to the knowledge of this was a Day of Rejoycing to all Your Majeſties dutiful Subjects, on the Account of Your Majeſties moſt Auſpicious Birth, for which we are ever bound to bleſs Almighty God; ſo the Hearing of this ſo Surpriſing an Inſtance of Your Majeſties Pious Zeal for our Holy Religion, and Your Care for the Miniſters of it, was a great addition to our Joy, and gave us a new and moſt welcome Occaſion of enlarging our Thankſgiving to God.

We cannot be Thankful enough for ſo ſingular a Bleſſing as We enjoy in a Queen, who Recommends our Holy Religion to all Her Subjects by the great Example She ſets them; and particularly by ſuch ſignal Inſtances of Piety and Charity,

as not only Render Her the Joy and Delight of all true Chriſtians of this Age, but leave thoſe Effects behind them, for which Her Memory will be Bleſſed in all ſucceeding Generations.

Theſe our great Obligations to Your Majeſty will, We truſt, through Gods Grace Encourage Your Clergy Zealouſly and Cheerfully to Diſcharge their Duty in ſuch a manner, as may moſt conduce to the Confirming all the Members of this Eſtabliſhed Church in a ſteady Adherence to it, and to the reducing, in Gods good time, ſuch as are unhappily divided from it.

We do moſt faithfully Promiſe for our Parts, That We will always keep theſe Obligations ſo freſh in our Memories, that they may conſtantly Excite Us to ſhew all poſſible Zeal for Your Majeſties Service, againſt all Your Enemies at Home and Abroad; and that We will alſo uſe our utmoſt Endeavours to poſſeſs the people under Our Charge with ſuch a juſt Senſe of their great Happineſs in Your Majeſties Government, that they may be Convinced it is as well their Intereſt as Duty to joyn with us in Offering up our moſt hearty and fervent Prayers to God for the long Continuance of it, and for the good Succeſs of all Your Majeſties Counſels and Undertakings; and, if it be his Gracious Will, that Your Majeſties Reign may exceed in Length and Glory that of any of Your Royal Predeceſſors, and particularly of that much Renowned Queen, whom God was pleaſed to make the Happy Inſtrument of our Reformation.

Her MAJESTIES moſt Gracious Anſwer to the Addreſs.

My Lords, and the reſt of the Clergy,

I Am glad that what I have Signified to the Houſe of Commons, in Order to the better Suport of the poor Clergy of the Church of England, *is ſo well Underſtood and Received by them.*

I do depend upon it, that they will make the Uſe of it that I intend.

And I take this Opportunity again to Aſſure You, that I will always continue to Protect the Church of England *as by Law Eſtabliſhed.*

FINIS.

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